



PECFA POST



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FAREWELL TO LORI HUNTOON

September 3, 2004 was Lori Huntoon's last day as the Wisconsin Department of Commerce (Commerce) Bureau of PECFA Site Review Section Chief. Lori joined Commerce in 1998 and has been instrumental in the many positive changes that have transpired in the PECFA program. Her energy and positive outlook will be missed. Commerce would like to wish Lori the best in all her future endeavors.

THE IMPROVED PECFA WEBSITE

You may have noticed recently that the PECFA website has a new appearance. The changes were incorporated as part of the revisions to the Commerce website (see links below). The changes make using the site more straightforward and efficient. If you have comments or suggestions with regard to the website, please e-mail them to Laura Pleasants at lpleasants@commerce.state.wi.us or Lorraine Narvaez at lnarvaez@commerce.state.wi.us.

The Commerce website: <http://commerce.wi.gov/>

The PECFA website: <http://commerce.wi.gov/ER/ER-PECFA-Home.html>

SPEEDY SITE TRANSFER

To facilitate the transfer of a leaking underground storage tank (LUST) site from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) to Commerce, the request is to be directed to the correct WDNR Program Assistant (PA). The PA's are listed on the WDNR Remediation and Redevelopment (R & R) web page at the following address: http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/technical/lists/contact_rr.htm#anchor106133. Once the request is received, the WDNR is to complete the transfer within 14 days. To assure the transfer progresses smoothly, include the following information: site name, address and the correct WDNR BRRT's number. The WDNR is to also send the Responsible Party (RP) a letter notifying them that the site has been transferred. If the RP has not received the letter in a timely manner, contacting the WDNR PA is suggested.

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PETROLEUM TANK INFORMATION

The Commerce Bureau of Petroleum Products and Tanks, Tank Permit & Registration Section is to be contacted about information with regard to tanks (e.g. tank registration, removal, etc.). Each county in Wisconsin is assigned to a specific staff member. A list of each county's staff contact and their phone number is found on the Commerce web site under "Storage Tank Regulation, Section Program Directory, Permit and Registration." The hyperlink below will also provide access to the list. This information is intended to serve as a resource for consultants and other subscribers.

<http://commerce.wi.gov/ER/ER-BST-MAP-PermitStaff.html>

SOUTHEAST REGION CONSULTANT'S DAY – OCTOBER 28, 2004

The Federation of Environmental Technologist Southeast Wisconsin Chapter and the WDNR, Southeast Region (SER) are conducting a full day conference at the Midway Hotel in Brookfield on October 28th, 2004. Topics being presented include site investigations, guidance for cover systems as soil performance standard remedies and vapor intrusion. Also included will be updates on the Dry Cleaner Environmental Response Fund (DERF), Brownfields, and PECFA programs.

A complete agenda and registration information can be found on the DNR website at:

<http://www.fetinc.org/10-28-04SERConsultantsDay.pdf>

MTBE VAPOR RELEASES AND INFLUENCES TO GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION

The June, 2004, LUSTLine Bulletin 47 has a very interesting article on page 13 titled "Tracking Troubling Vapor Releases in New Hampshire" by Gary Lynn.

The article reports that there appears to be a statistically significant association between the occurrence of methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE) groundwater contamination and the presence of a vacuum-assist Stage II vapor-recovery system. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) believes this study is significant because the only plausible link between the recovery system and MTBE groundwater contamination is the existence of vapor releases. The article can be accessed on page 13 of the following link:

http://www.neiwpcc.org/PDF_Docs/l_line47.pdf.

PECFA Post circulation and a request for Topics of Concern

We are continuing to move toward total electronic distribution of the *PECFA Post*. To subscribe electronically go to <http://www.commerce.wi.gov/ER/ER-PECFA-News.html> - #PecfaPost and scroll down to the subscribe box. You will receive an email to confirm your email address. Upon confirmation you will have been added to the electronic distribution list. If you do not have e-mail, you may call, (920) 303-5410, or write Beth Erdman at ERS Division, Bureau of PECFA, 2129 Jackson Street, Oshkosh WI 54901 and request to be placed on a mailing list.

We are always happy to receive suggestions for future *Post* topics or comments on current articles. Please use contact Beth Erdman at berdman@commerce.state.wi.us or mail suggestions or topics to the address listed above.

A CLOSER LOOK AT OUR FRIEND BENTONITE

A question for all field professionals: do you recall the first time you were working on a job-site and had the feeling of stepping in/on wet bentonite? The squishy, slippery uniqueness of the experience “sticks” with you. The remnants on the bottom of your boots (or up to your kneecaps), smeared across the upholstery of the field vehicle, crusted between the webbing of your fingers or behind your left ear is hard to forget. You may not realize it, but bentonite has a diverse history and many uses beyond groundwater well applications.

The term bentonite comes from the Fort Benton shale member of the Mowry Formation, in the vicinity of Fort Benton, Wyoming. Bentonite was originally called taylorite for William Taylor, who is credited with making the first commercial shipments of clay in 1888. A state geologist in Wyoming, Dr. H. Knigh, renamed the mineral when he learned that the term taylorite had been used in England for another substance. (1)

Composition-wise, bentonite clay is a fine-grained rock composed mainly of montmorillonite. The in situ alteration of rhyolitic volcanic ash deposited some 120,000,000 years ago is credited with the formation of much of the bentonite in Wyoming. Pyroclastic material was ejected into the atmosphere by volcanic activity and deposited as sediment in a marine environment. (1)

There are two basic types of bentonite: sodium and calcium. The sodium type, sometimes referred to as Wyoming Bentonite, swells when wet and can increase as much as fifteen times its original volume. Because of this, Wyoming Bentonite is used as the standard against which, all other bentonite in the world is measured. The calcium type bentonite is sometimes referred to as Southern Bentonite. This type will swell to only two times its dry volume. Southern Bentonite occurs in Arizona, Mississippi and other southern United States locations. (1)

Bentonite Fun Facts:

- The first sales of Wyoming bentonite were to eastern plants in 1888 for the use in the manufacture of cosmetics. (1)
- If a gram of bentonite were spread out only one particle layer thick, its billions of particles would cover an area greater than a regulation football field. (1)
- The United States is the world's largest bentonite producer and exporter; Wyoming contains over 70% of the world's supply of sodium type bentonite. (1)
- Bentonite has been produced continuously for over 100 years, an achievement experienced by few other natural resources anywhere in the world. (1)
- In the Medical Annals of the District of Columbia, Vol. 20, No. 6, June, 1961, under the title "The Value of Bentonite for Diarrhea" we may read the results of the clinical work performed by a team of medical doctors, using Hydrated Bentonite** in the treatment of diarrhea (34 cases). The results of the scientific investigation indicated that liquid bentonite provides substantial relief in 97 percent of the cases. (3)

A few of the historical uses of bentonite include:

- Bleaching, washing agent, and soap by native americans.
- Emergency Substitute for wagon axle greases.
- Curative pack for inflamed horses hoofs.
- Intestinal detoxification.
- Waterproofing for roofs of dwellings.
- Binding agent in foundry sand.
- Additive to oil well drilling muds.

- Cat litter.
- Binder in feed pelletizing industry.
- Sealing ditches, lagoons, and ponds.
- Detergents, fungicides, sprays, cleansers, polishes, ceramics, paper and cosmetics.
- Taconite pelletizing.
(1), (2), (3)

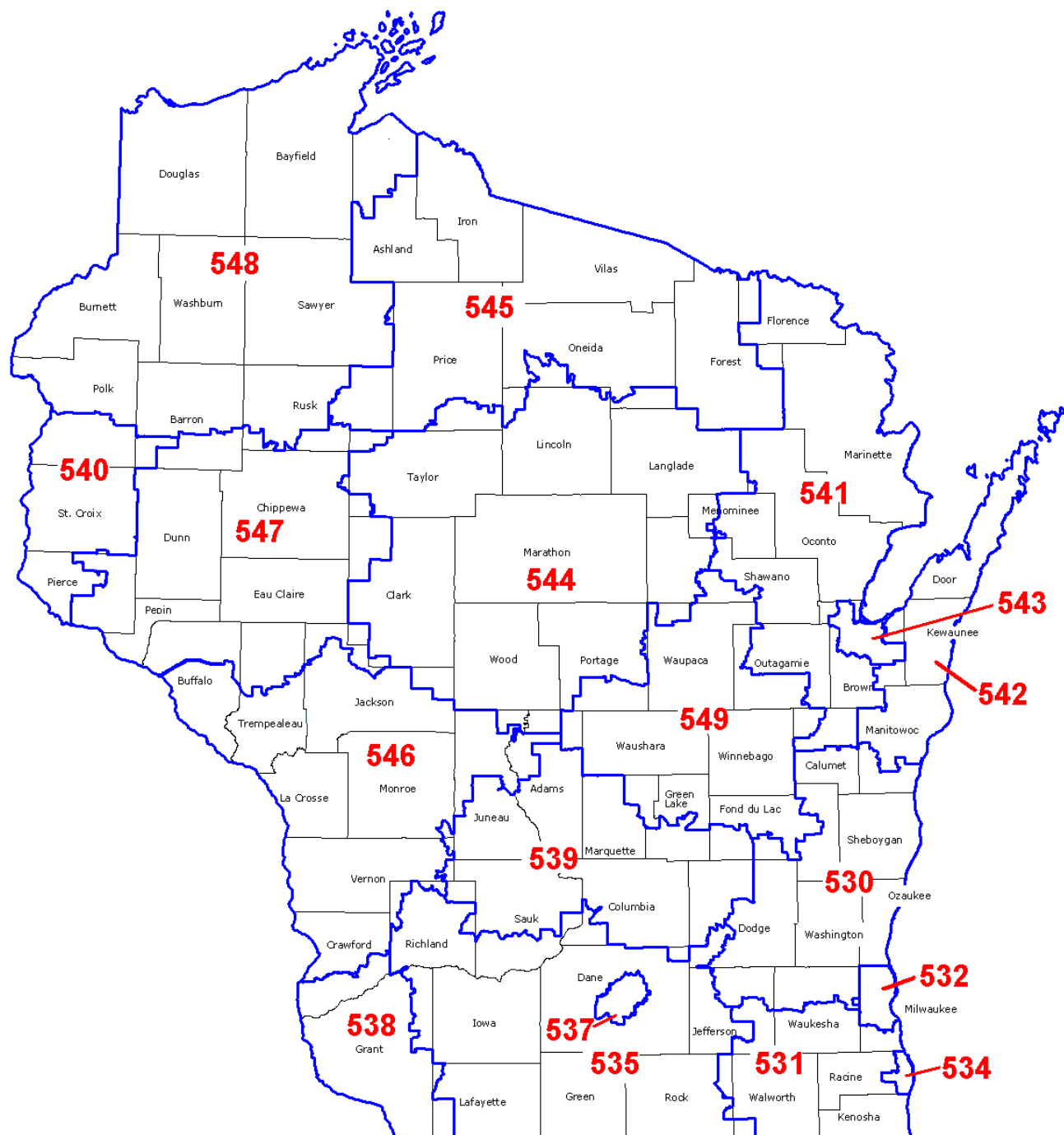
So, the next time you are out properly constructing or abandoning monitoring wells at your favorite PECFA site, you can reflect on your higher level of appreciation for the uses of this staple in our profession. For more information on the uses, history, and characteristics of bentonite, websites referenced have been included.

1. <http://www.drilling-fluids.com/bentonitehist.htm>
2. <http://www.bhbentonite.com/history.html>
3. <http://www.eytonsearth.org/bentonite.html>

INTERAGENCY MEETINGS

The Commerce Bureau of PECFA Site Review Section and the WDNR Bureau of Remediation and Redevelopment will hold regional interagency meetings in Wausau, Madison and Milwaukee during the fall of 2004. The meetings are intended to further promote consistency in the management of petroleum contaminated sites. The dates, times and agendas for the meetings had not been finalized prior to the distribution of the PECFA Post. An article regarding topics discussed during the meeting will be included in a future issue.

PECFA SITE REVIEW ZONE COVERAGE MAP



PECFA SITE REVIEW ZONE CONTACT INFORMATION

Bureau Director Oscar Herrera (608) 266-7605 WI Dept Of Commerce FAX 608-267-1381 201 W Washington Ave PO Box 8044 Madison WI 53708-8044		Section Chief Site Review Section Vacant
Program Assistant Cathy Voges (608) 261-7717 WI Dept Of Commerce FAX 608-267-1381 201 W Washington Ave PO Box 8044 Madison WI 53708-8044		Program Assistant Kristi Hammes (608) 267-3753 WI Dept Of Commerce FAX 608-267-1381 201 W Washington Ave PO Box 8044 Madison WI 53708-8044
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539, 546	David Swimm (608) 264-8766 Gena Larson (608) 261-5404	
540	Shawn Wenzel (608) 261-5401	
545	David Blair (608) 261-2515	
548	Will Myers (608) 261-7718	
544	Brian Taylor (608) 266-0593 Dee Zoellner (715) 342-3802	
547	Tim Zeichert (715) 345-5307	WI Dept Of Commerce 2715 Post Rd Stevens Point WI 54481-6456 FAX 715-345-5225
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549*	Tom Verstegen (920) 424-0025	
541	Beth Erdman (920) 303-5410	

*Outagamie, Winnebago, Fond du Lac Counties are project managed by Robert Klauk and the remainder of 549 sites including the City of New London are managed by Dee Zoellner.

PECFA CLAIM REVIEW CONTACT INFORMATION

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Commodity Bid Waivers	Mary Ann Gosda (608) 266-9420		
Appeals Field Audit	James Moser (608) 267-1394		
Appeals Coordinator-Initial Contact for Appeals	Laura Pleasants (608) 261-2511		
Initial Claim Review	Diane Ploessl (608) 261-7723		
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